Monthly Report

Grantee: Rural Urban Development Initiatives (RUDI)

Report for the month of: July 2011

Based on your grant agreement implementation timeline, the project accomplished the following activities over the past month:

s/n	Activities	Activity Status		
1	Assess progress made by Associations supported by USAID COMPETE	RUDI CEO visited Associations supported by the project in Iringa – Mangalali, Magubike and Lumuli. Discuss challenges and develop plans with Association leaders and members. Total number of participants: 106 (51 F) in Lumuli, 67 (23 f) Lumuli and 88 (45 F) in Mangalali.		
2	Roundtable discussion between Apex leaders and buyers.	During the month Smart Logistics Director Rose Mutuku visited Associations supported by COMPETE project with the aim of developing and sign MOU with the Associations. Unfortunately the government has announced export ban to grain to December 2011. RUDI market person visited the buyers in major markets in Dar es Salaam. They want samples of rice and flour before signing the contract. When operation starts we will supply the samples to the buyers in Dar es Salaam and other markets.		
3	Repair warehouses for Mbingu	Repair made and the machine building completed		
4	Training business operators for warehouse supported by the project	Warehouse committee of 5 people and Associations Executive Committee (4) from all warehouses supported by the project received training. Total: 54		
5	Training on grades and standards in Magubike, Limuli and Mbingu	Magubike 43 (14 F), Limuli 49 (29 F), Mbingu 150(68 F) received training on standards. Trainer: Shaimwene Ndondole, venue Mbingu village, Francis Boma: Venue: Limuli and Magubike village warehouses		
6	Analyze/Collect daily price information	Consultant continues to collect daily price information for rice and maize from urban Dar es Salaam markets and disseminate the information to all warehouse managers by sms		
7	Training on EAC grain standards Limuli Magubike Amani Suwa and Mbingu	Training on Trainers conducted to selected members of SUWA and Amani Associations Amani 50 (17 F), Suwa 50 (24 F) Lumuli 40 (23 F), Magubike 48, (21 F), Mbingu 79 (32 F)		

8	Training maize drying procedures Amani Suwa	Training on trainers on drying maize procedures conducted to SUWA 48 (21 F), AMANI 53 (33 F). Trainer William Riwa. Venue: Amani and SUWA warehouses.	
9	Access to credit Amani, Suwa ,Mangalali, Limuli and Magubike	Trainer: Peter Mashingia; SUWA 30 (5 F) Amani 50 (21 F), Mangalali 55 (23 F), Lumuli 50 (21 F) Magubike 21 (7 F)	
10	Training paddy post harvest management(Rice drying procedures)	Trainer: Ndondole Venue: Mkangawalo, Mchombe, Igima, Mngeta villages: farmers from these Associations will deposit their rice in Mbingu warehouse. Total: 355 (133 F)	
11	Specialized technical training on proper record keeping on milling machines	Training conducted to milling machine/warehouse committee members of Amani 12 (5 F), SUWA 12, (6 F), Mang'ula "A" 14 (5 F), Vijana Mbasa 12 (4 F), Mbingu 13 (5 F)	
12	Make pallets for Lumuli and Magubike	Pallets made for Lumuli and Magubike warehouses-	
13	Purchase milling machine for Mbingu, Mangalali and SUWA	Machines purchased	
14	Conduct strategic planning training in Limuli, Magubike, Mangalali Amani, Suwa.	The training is still going on	
15	Awareness on government farmers support program: Suwa Mangalali, Amani, Magubike and Limuli	The awareness program is still going on	

Status of the installation of milling machine:

s/n	Association name	Status	District	Expected date to start operation
1	Mang'ula "A" (rice)	Completed	Kilombero	
2	Mkasu (rice)	Machine is on the site. Conveyor belts are not on the stock until the second week of August 2011	Kilombero	End of August, 2011
3	Ifakara (rice)	Completed.	Kilombero	
4	Mbingu (rice)	Engineer is on sight installing the machines	Kilombero	third week of August 2011
5	Idodi (rice)	Machine installed. Installation completed. Waiting for engineer to test	Iringa Rural	third week of August 2011
6	Mangalali (maize)	The machine purchased waiting for the engineer to install the machine	Iringa Rural	Third/fourth week of August 2011
7	Suwa (maize)	The machine purchased waiting for the engineer to install the machine	Handeni	Second week of August 2011

Additional comments/results:

Process of installing milling machines took more time than earlier planned. Not so many experienced Engineers to install the machines. We are using the same Engineer because he is reputable and agreed to service the machines regularly.

The training business operators of the machines of the machines is also a challenge because they need to have some basic knowledge of the machines repairs etc. It takes time to find a right candidate.

The experience of Mang'ula milling machines indicates that the milling machine business is going to bring revenue to Association members as well as increasing the quality of rice, hence increase income to members.